

IDEA-0993-69  
Copy 8 of 8

22 October 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: OEL/ESL Meeting at Lockheed 22 October 1969

1. The writer received a telephone call from Kelly Johnson this date. Subject was a meeting with OEL and ESL which Kelly was about to attend and in which he would be asked to be a subcontractor to ESL (Electromagnetic Systems Laboratories) who would be prime to OEL for some equipment/hardware installation in the U-2R known as [redacted]. His point was that he thought he was a prime contractor with OSA on matters of this nature involving installation and what was going on? Since [redacted] was an unfamiliar term and might not involve OSA at all, Kelly was advised to hold tight until the writer called him back.

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2. Investigation revealed that:

A. Appropriate OSA components were not aware that an OEL sponsored meeting was scheduled involving Lockheed or the U-2R.

B. OEL confirmed that a meeting was taking place; that the subject was [redacted]

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[redacted] involving a hardware installation into the U-2R; and that Lockheed was alerted yesterday by OEL that they were being considered as a subcontractor to ESL although this was by no means firm in OEL personnel minds as the best approach.

3. The writer advised OEL that a contract mechanism directly between OSA and Lockheed as a prime always has existed and should continue to be used for any proposed equipment installation in the U-2 aircraft. It was further suggested that the OEL representative at the Lockheed meeting

IDEA-0993-69  
Page 2

be contacted as soon as possible and so advised to preclude further embarrassment. (ESL certainly can and should be a prime or associate-prime contractor to OEL on the development of such equipment. ESL can be either a sub or an associate-prime on the installation but Lockheed must be prime and responsive to OSA.)

4. The writer then called Kelly Johnson and advised him that he should be responsive directly to OSA via the existing LK-3600 series contracts for equipment scheduled for installation in the U-2R aircraft. He was also advised to be cooperative and offer as much help as possible to OEL/ESL regarding the interface between the proposed equipment and the aircraft.

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[redacted]  
Deputy for  
Research and Development  
Special Activities

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